

18. (Four Times Amended) A component mounting apparatus comprising:

a pair of component supply tables for accommodating a plurality of components, said component supply tables being arranged on opposite sides of a board mounting position;

~~1~~ a first mounting head section for successively picking up the plural components at one of the component supply tables and thereafter successively mounting the plural picked-up components onto a board, positioned at the board mounting position, while moving in first and second directions which are perpendicular to each other,

wherein the first direction is perpendicular to a direction in which the board is transferred, and the second direction is located along the board transfer direction; and

a second mounting head section for successively picking up the plural components at the other of the component supply tables and thereafter successively mounting the plural picked-up components onto the board, positioned at the board mounting position, while moving in third and fourth directions which are perpendicular to each other,

wherein the third direction is parallel to the first direction, and the fourth direction is parallel to the second direction but is not necessarily the same as the second direction,

wherein each of the first and second mounting head sections is independently movable between one of the component supply tables and the board,

wherein each of the first and second mounting head sections has a plurality of rotatably supported component suction nozzles capable of sucking more than one of the

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plurality of components prior to a component mounting operation, and each of the mounting head sections is capable of rotating the component suction nozzles,

wherein the first mounting head section is capable of mounting the plural picked-up components onto the board while the second mounting head section successively sucks to pick up more than one of the plurality of components at the other of the component supply tables.

II

Concluded

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